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TREASURE ISLAND PROJECT
(Aug '48 - Sept '51)

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Assistant Director for Intelligence
Coordination
Chief, Foreign Documents Division, OO

4 January 1954

Alleged FDD and Treasure Island Duplication

REFER : Your memorandum dated 24 December 1953, same subject as above

1. This is in answer to paragraph 2 of your memorandum on this subject. Steps under way to solve this problem are as follows:

a. The Exploitation Subcommittee has discussed this problem at some length and has tentatively reached the conclusion that due to the complex details involved, it will ask FDD to act as its executive agent to work out the detailed steps necessary for coordination. This is now phrased in the draft recommendations as follows:

"In accordance with NSCID-16, paragraph 3, FDD/CIA be directed to ensure the coordination of foreign language exploitation activities including:

a. Periodically evaluating and reporting the coverage and gaps of these activities (both governmental and nongovernmental with particular emphasis on changes due to initiation or cessation of any exploitation activity.

b. Initiating whatever action is necessary or possible to resolve the deficiencies revealed in these reports."

These, at this point, are however draft recommendations and will be up for consideration at a special committee meeting on 12 January.

b. Meanwhile, I have made an appointment with [redacted] STAT Acting Chief, Industrial Register, OCD, to discuss his problem and clarify misunderstandings. The nature of such a meeting, of course, will be to determine exactly what the real problem is and what immediate steps can be taken by FDD to assist IR or work out remedial action for their problem. Following this I intend to meet with the Chief, AID, and determine, as exactly as possible, what steps can be taken to coordinate more closely the work of AID and FDD.

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c. Following this, if no action to the contrary is recommended by the Subcommittee, I shall proceed to effect those steps within my authority and endeavor to get cooperation from other officials where necessary. If the result of such action is not to the satisfaction of other consumers or myself, I shall bring back to the Subcommittee a report on the steps taken, nature of the problem as it stands at that point, and recommendations as to its solution. It shall then be the duty of the Subcommittee to recommend to the FLP Committee steps it thinks should be taken to solve this problem.

J. J. BAGNALL

cc: DO

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1 December 1953

INFORMATION ON TREASURE ISLAND (AIR INFORMATION DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS)

Air Information Division (AID) is administratively a part of the Library of Congress and operates under a contract between the Library and the Air Force. It was established early in 1949. . Its contacts with Air Force are through Exploitation Section, Collection Control Branch, of AF Directorate of Intelligence.

As stated by Mr. George A. Pughe, chief of AID, early this summer, it has a T/O of about 110 people, about 70 of whom are linguists. Attachment A is an organization chart of the Division.

It was set up to extract from overt foreign language sources available in the Library of Congress air intelligence information, originally primarily on air targets. Its early operations concentrated on Soviet newspapers and periodicals, each issue of which was gone through with the aim of extracting all the information available. This information was published in Air Information Abstracts, each of which was, typically, the information as found, without collation, on a single installation, in a format suitable for coding and filing by techniques similar to those of Industrial Register.

These abstracts are still being prepared, and are the product of the General Exploitation Section (see Attachment A). In addition, in about the last year, AID has been preparing Air Intelligence Information Reports, (Air Force Form 112), which are somewhat comparable to FDD's OO-W's, and are in answer to specific requirements from Air Force. Attachment B is a recent list of these.

In addition, AID has prepared for Library of Congress publication specialized bibliographies of Russian sources: on geology, electric power, petroleum, manufacturing, transportation, etc.

It extracts on 5x8 cards biographic information of AF interest.

Its main interests are; (1) Soviet and satellite air force doctrine, training, and capabilities (for A-2 Deputy Director for Estimates) and (2) targets (data on main urban centers; new construction on major industries, power, heavy industry, machine building, steel, transprotation and communications, fuel (especially petroleum), etc.) (for Deputy Director for Targets. It also serves, apparently to an increasing degree, Air Technical Intelligence Center, which I understand is turning over, or has turned over, to AID the routine exploitation of Soviet overt sources.

in 1949

In order to avoid duplication, there was an agreement/between FDD and AID (then Air Information Section of Air Research Division) under which AID would cover Soviet newspapers and periodicals published prior to 1 January 1948 and FDD those subsequent to that date. However, beginning some time after February, 1951, AID decided that due to the decreasing value of the older issues, it could no longer hold to that agreement, and since has been exploiting current issues.

At present the chief mechanism for preventing duplication is a monthly statement to FDD from AID listing the latter's projects from monographs and periodicals, and the newspapers covered. FDD's Consolidated Translation Survey supplies similar information to AID.

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Practically, this only serves to prevent extensive duplication of effort in the translation of monographs.

At the present time AID is regularly exploiting 17 Soviet newspapers which FDD also exploits. In addition it exploits a considerably smaller number - perhaps a half dozen - eastern Europe newspapers also exploited by FDD. FDD covers 37 Russian Soviet papers and 7 non-Russian Soviet ones.

AID no longer attempts thoroughly to exploit Soviet periodicals, such as it used to for publication in the Abstracts. It exploits them now only in answer to specific requests for information. This work is done by the Directed Exploitation Section. Mr. Pughe states that 90% of the work of this section is from monographs and back numbers of serial publications, so that there is little avoidable duplication here. AID's publication of annotated tables of contents of three Soviet technical journals connected with electric power (Promyshlennaya Energetika, Elektrichestvo and Gidrotecknicheskoye Stroitel'stvo), however, does duplicate FDD Periodical Abstracts which include these same journals.

Mr. Pughe [redacted] of FDD compared notes about two months ago on the extent of duplication between AID and USSR Branch, FDD. The following conclusions, unsupported by any detailed check of operations or sources and publications, seemed true: STAT

1. Air Force requirements on AID require it to do almost nothing in certain fields covered by USSR Branch: political and sociological; economic which is abstract or unconnected with industrial or other target installations, such as trade, finance, management, theory, manpower (industrial), industrial efficiency; food, agriculture and consumers goods; fuels (except petroleum)

2. A rough check of the titles of 154 recent [redacted] indicated that about 40% of them were on subjects which would also be covered by AID, though often from a different point of view and in a different format. STAT

3. About 40% of USSR Branch personnel are working in fields which are also of interest to Air [redacted] Information Division.

The above two paragraphs, of course, do not add up to 40% duplication. Only in the case of the 17 newspapers are sources identical. There is duplication of periodical coverage when recent issues are involved AID's working on specific requirements. There is little duplication in work on monographs at present, because USSR Branch is able to devote little time to them, then usually in answer to specific requirements, and to a large extent on subjects not covered by AID.

One final note: when last contacted, Mr. Pughe stated that there was a possibility that AID would be ordered by Air Force to discontinue work on newspapers altogether, largely because of the need to concentrate on certain technical subjects of interest to Air Force. It is not known what the present status of this is.

[redacted] STAT

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24 December 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. J. Bagnall

SUBJECT: Alleged FDD and Treasure Island Duplication

1. Attached for your information and in pursuance of our conversation is the report from IR which I referred to this morning. I am also attaching materials produced in your office on the Treasure Island question.

2. I would appreciate your sending me a note stating the steps which are currently under way to solve this problem in your committee on exploitation or otherwise. If I can be of any assistance, please let me know.

STAT

JAMES Q. REBER
Assistant Director
Intelligence Coordination

Attachments

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : [redacted], 1128 M Bldg. DATE: 1 December 1953. STAT

FROM : [redacted] 2401 [redacted] SSTAT

SUBJECT: Treasure Island - information on.

1. Attached is information I promised you.

2. I forgot to mention TI activities with regard to China. I understand these do not amount to much as yet--that TI works from no original Chinese sources, but receives raw material from some such sources extracted by 6004th Air Intelligence Service Squadron in Tokyo and prepares reports from such material in English on AF Form 112 as Air Intelligence Information Reports.

3. I think you will find Mr. Fughe quite cordial and cooperative. TI seems disposed to defend the duplication that exists on the grounds that it is necessary duplication, chiefly because they claim that Air Information Abstracts presents information in a form more suitable for Air Target and Industrial Register filing than do our [redacted], whereas the latter suit the purposes of many other offices better. STAT

4. If I can help in any other ways, please let me know.

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